

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 35, 44, 45 and 55. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1.-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A method for continuously forming an optical film from a radiation curable liquid material comprising:

providing a mold that defines a shape for optical structures to be formed in the optical film;

placing the radiation curable liquid material in the mold;

positioning a radiation transparent base film adjacent to the radiation curable liquid material in the mold;

positioning a radiation source such that it can irradiate the curable liquid material while the radiation curable material is in the mold;

~~positioning a radiation transparent base film adjacent to the radiation curable liquid material in the mold;~~

overlapping a mask film on a base film, the mask film being disposed between the radiation source and the base film, wherein the mask film comprises a pattern that further defines areas of the optical film where curved portions are to be made in the shape of the optical structures as would otherwise be defined by the mold alone; and

simultaneously curing and patterning the liquid material by exposing it to the radiation source, wherein radiation passes through both the mask film and through the transparent base film at the same time, to reach the liquid material in the mold, and to thereby cure the liquid material and at the same time to pattern cured optical structures and further patterning the optical structures with the curved portions in their shape as a single step, the resulting curved optical structures thus being formed via differential exposure to radiation during the curing step, as caused by the mask film.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the optical structure is formed in a surface of the optical film, opposite the base film.
37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the radiation source emits ultraviolet light.
38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the radiation curable liquid material is a monomer is selected from polyester, urethane, epoxy acrylates or methacrylates.
39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the pattern is configured in the form of a logo, geometric form, or alphanumerics.
40. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the pattern is formed on the mask film.
41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the radiation curable liquid is deposited between the base film and the mold.
42. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41 wherein the pattern is removably placed on the base film.
43. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein the optical structures comprise linear prisms, lenticular structures, cube-corner prisms, lens structures, and/or sub-wavelength structures.
44. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 35, wherein the cured optical ~~film is~~ structures are used in a display.
45. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 43, wherein the ~~display includes~~ optical structures include a liquid crystal display.
46. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein the pattern is used to mark the optical film.

47.–54. (Canceled)

55. (Currently Amended) A method for making a continuous optical film having parallel prism structures, the method comprising:

providing a rotating cylinder mold having linear grooves formed on an outer surface thereof, the linear grooves used as a mold for defining the parallel prism structures with aligned peaks;

dispensing a radiation curable liquid material onto the rotating cylinder mold at a dispensing location;

continuously feeding a radiation transparent optical base film and a mask film, the mask film having a pattern used in further defining features of the optical base film, near the dispenser location;

positioning the continuous mask film adjacent to the continuously fed optical base film near the dispensing location such that the optical base film and mask film are placed against the rotating mold, wherein the optical film is positioned nearest the rotating mold and the mask film is positioned outside of the optical base film;

providing a radiation source for simultaneously curing and patterning the liquid material by irradiating the liquid material through the adjacent mask film and optical base film, such that the radiation travels first through the mask film and then through the transparent optical base film before curing the liquid material, and such that the radiation source causes simultaneous patterning of the liquid material while the liquid material is being cured, to thereby define the optical base film including ~~in-prisms~~ the prism structures having deformed peaks in an area of the liquid material blocked from the irradiation by the pattern;

separating the adjacent mask film and optical base film; and

thereafter, individually collecting the optical base film and the mask film.